

101

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

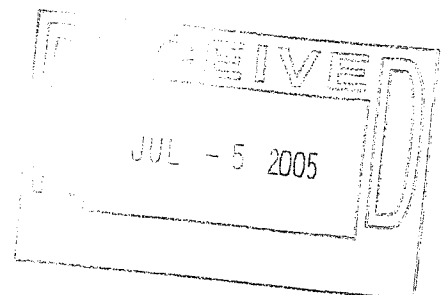
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Sincerely,

Name George Breddem  
Address 190 Sayer Street Rochester, NY 14614  
e-mail gbreddem@frontiernet.net



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Sincerely,

Signature

Judy L Ross

Print Name

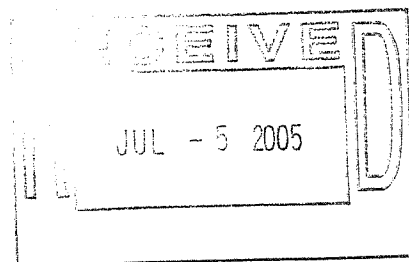
JUDY L ROSS

Print Address

129 Trafalgar St

Rochester, NY

14619



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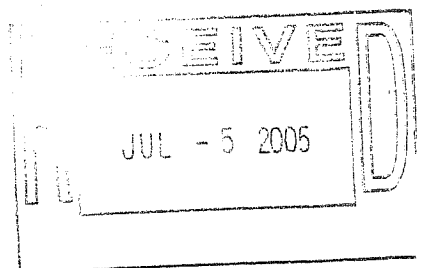
Leo Holihan

Print Name

LEO-HOLIHAN

Print Address

30 STRATFORD-PARK,  
ROCHESTER-N.Y-14611



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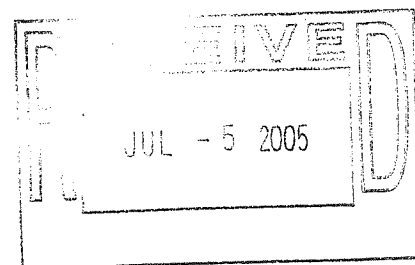
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Sincerely,

Signature Maya Brody  
Print Name MAYA BRODY  
Print Address 238 SAWYER ST  
Rochester, NY 14619



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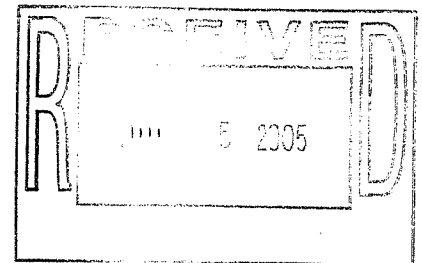
*Cheryl Armstrong*

Print Name

*Cheryl Armstrong*

Print Address

*2141 West River Road  
Rochester, NY 14611*



*Gen-Stop-n-Shop Inc.  
874 Genesee St.  
Rochester, NY 14611*

106

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Sincerely,

Signature

*Kathleen B King*

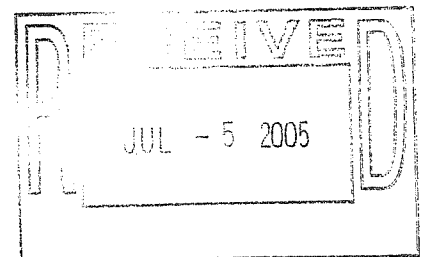
Print Name

*Kathleen B King*

Print Address

*124 Trafalgar St*

*Rochester Ny 14619*



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Sincerely,

Signature Charlotte Fridd

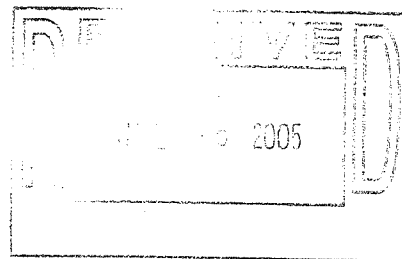
*Bruce Fridd*

Print Name Charlotte Fridd

Bruce Fridd

Print Address 586 Windsor Rd.

Rochester, NY 14611



108

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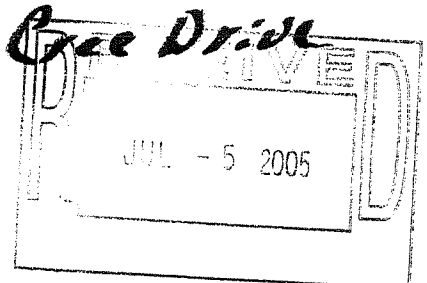
Willie L. Moore

Print Name

Willie L. Moore

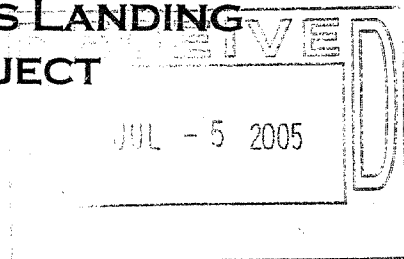
Print Address

136 Dr. Samuel McGee Drive  
Rochester N.Y. 14608





IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING  
REVITALIZATION PROJECT



June 23, 2005

*Clear read P.S.*

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Sincerely,

*Paul Leech*

*P.S.*

*Please keep this important economic project going. My neighborhood needs and deserves it. We've waited too long.*

Signature

*Paul Leech*

Print Name

*Paul Leech*

Print Address

*15 ARVIND Hgts*

*Roch, NY*

*14611*

*Respectfully*

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Sincerely,

Signature

*Lyn Morgan*

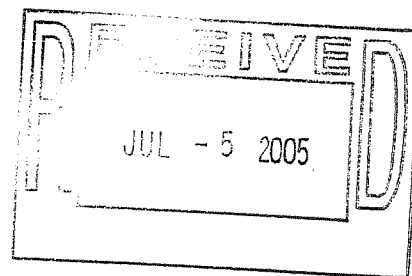
Print Name

*Lyn Morgan*

Print Address

*921 Genesee St*

*Rochester NY 14611*



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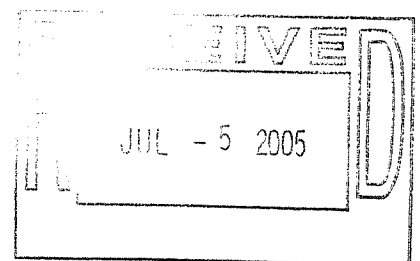
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Sincerely,

Signature Judith L. Baker  
Print Name Judith L. Baker  
Print Address 87 Elba St.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14608



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Sincerely,

Signature

Ed & Pat Schneider - residents of 19th Ward for

Print Name

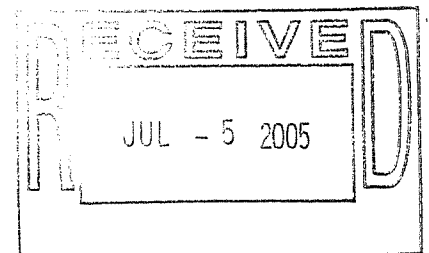
ED & PAT SCHNEIDER

44 yrs.

Print Address

36 WEST High Ter.

ROCHESTER NY. 14619



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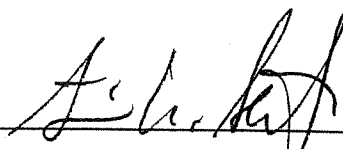
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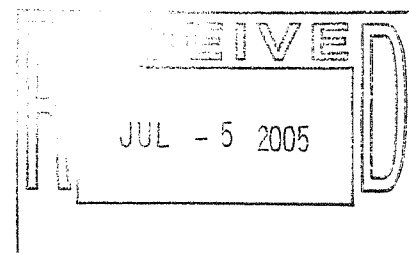
Print Name

Armin K. Weiss

Print Address

62 Stanfield Terrace

ROCHESTER, NY 14619



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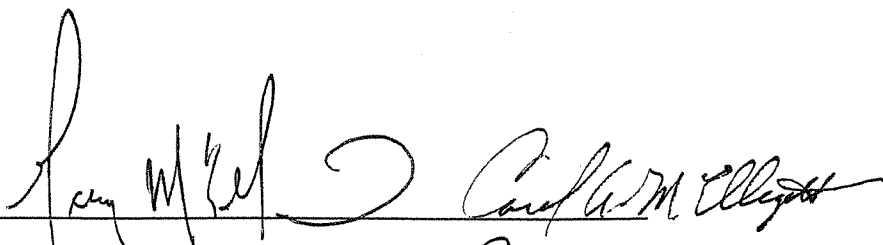
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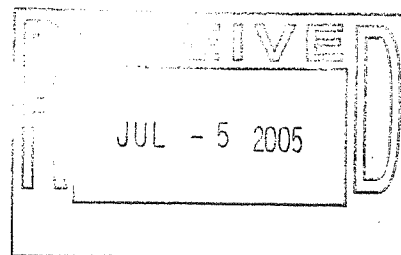
Print Name

GARY D. M'ELIGOTT & CAROL ANN M'ELIGOTT  
GENESEE PROPERTY OWNERS

Print Address

1144 FIVE MILE LN RD

WEBSTER NY 14580



July 1, 2005

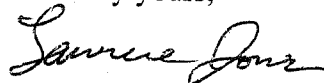
Dear Commissioner Ku,

While I greatly value Rochester's Olmsted designed parks, I am still in favor of the Brooks Landing Revitalization project. As one who lives very close to this project, I realize that there will be trade-offs, however on the whole, I feel it is in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood's best interest to continue moving forward with all phases of the re-development. 3

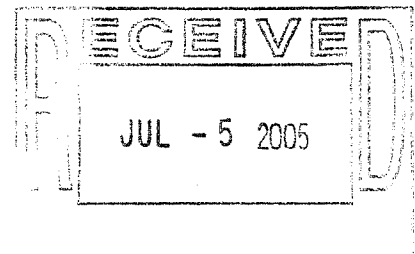
Many things have changed in our world since Frederick Law Olmsted's design for South Park. He never could have envisioned the role that automobiles would play in American Society or the speed at which they would travel. I think it is fair to say that he would not favor a busy thoroughfare through a park, which is what Plymouth Avenue between Brooks and Elmwood has become.

In my opinion, the 1.4 acres in question for this development has not been well used as park land, given the quantity and velocity of automobile traffic. My hope is that the Brooks Landing project will restore more of a pedestrian feeling to the area along the river between Brooks and Elmwood Avenues. My additional hope is that this economic development will spur other positive activity in the vicinity. 6

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence Jones  
173 Spruce Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14611



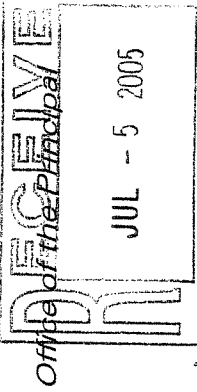
THE JAMES MADISON  
School of Excellence



THE JAMES MADISON  
School of Excellence

Dr. Andrew A. Ray  
Principal

200 Genesee Street  
Rochester, New York 14611  
(585) 463-4100  
Fax (585) 463-4103  
Andrew.Ray@rcsdk12.org



or for

of the revitalization  
of the southwest. Please  
be sure that the people  
of the area are a part of  
the new growth. + + +

I have lived and worked  
in the southwest for over 20  
years. I know of the rise  
and fall of the area. Now  
we can bring prosperity back  
to the citizens of the City.  
The southwest citizens are  
deserving of the revitalization of the



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

July 2, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

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Sincerely,

Name

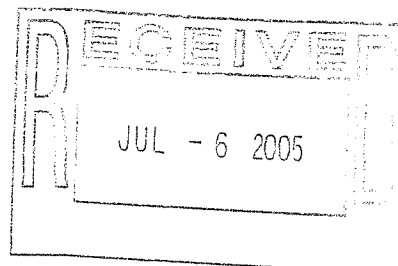
Leah Palmer

Address

250 Eddy Ave. Rochester NY 14619

e-mail

\_\_\_\_\_



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Signature

*Delores + George Radney*

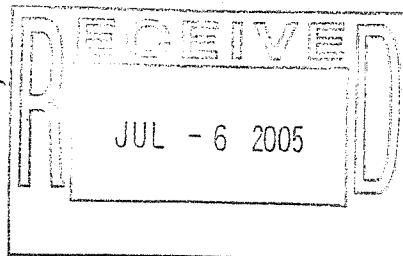
Print Name

*Delores + George Rad*

Print Address

*325 Roslyn St*

*Rochester NY 14619*



280 Melrose Street  
Rochester NY 14619  
e-mail: mlb65@cornell.edu

119

July 5, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

I completely support the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a resident of the 19th Ward for 31 years, I have watched and waited for this project's fulfillment for two decades. The economic and social benefits it will bring to our community and to the University of Rochester cannot be disputed.

I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. I'm very excited about the retail development that has already begun and will continue to happen with this project's realization.

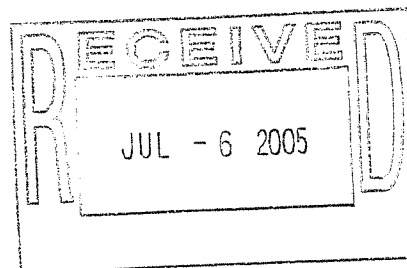
The loss of a small a strip of grass no more than thirty feet wide and a weedy, abandoned railroad bed can in no way justify blocking this vital development.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. Please add my name to its list of supporters.

Sincerely,

*Marian Boutet*

Marian Boutet



July 3, 2005

Fashun Ku  
Commissioner of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

I am writing you concerning the review process for the Brooks Landing Project. I have been a 19<sup>th</sup> Ward resident for almost 20 years. Although I support and cherish this neighborhood, one of the big issues that concerns me is the lack of sustained economic growth. Stagnation can lead to decline which affects property values and the quality of life for me and my family.

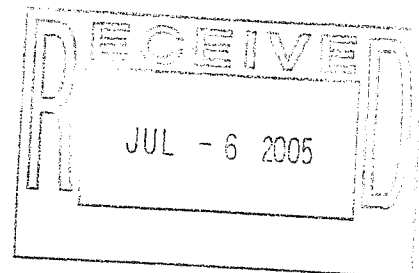
We have the opportunity with the Brooks Landing Project to reverse this stagnation and send a clear signal to the Community that the southwest sector is a great place to live. The project will not only be the key to providing economic growth and a catalyst for other development. It will also provide a significant psychological boost to the fabric of our community.

I attended the initial design charette for the Brooks Landing project and have studied the project over the past several years. I have reviewed the plans for street improvements and am convinced that there will be no long term impacts to the community as a result of these changes. The Brooks Landing project will greatly enhance river and park access. Reducing traffic volumes on Plymouth Avenue provides opportunities to redevelop this segment of the park for community use. The Plymouth corridor can become a parkland gateway to the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward and to the University of Rochester. The loss of parkland is a non issue in my mind.

Please enter these comments into the record as my positive support of the project and recommendation of approval and I encourage you to make a Finding of No Significant Impact for this project.

Sincerely,

  
Howard Ressel



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

July 2, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on my daily travels. In fact, I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. In addition, I'm excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice.

Sincerely,

Name

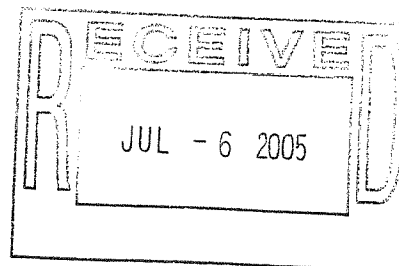
James M. Watson

Address

450 Ruffey Ave Rochester NY 14619

e-mail

Watson@Gnosedu.edu



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

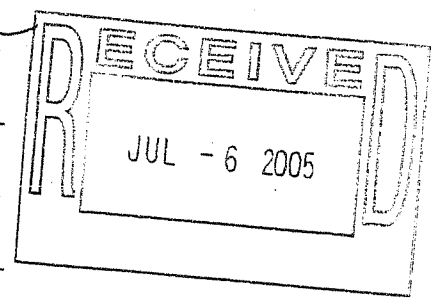
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Sincerely,

Signature Virginia P. McEwen  
Print Name VIRGINIA P. MCEWEN  
Print Address 45 KRON ST.  
14619



## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

*Betty Dugan*

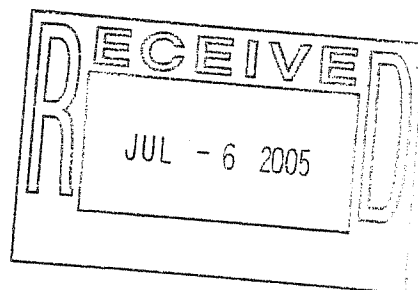
Print Name

Betty Dugan

Print Address

954 Clifford Ave

Rochester NY 14641



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

*This is a great project that  
many local people have worked  
tirelessly for! Should definitely  
improve our neighborhood*

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

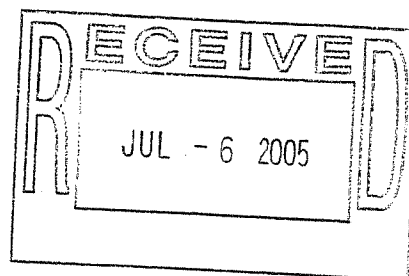
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Sincerely,

Signature *Lynn Braband*  
Print Name Lynn Braband  
Print Address 47 Roslyn St.  
Rochester, NY 14619





# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

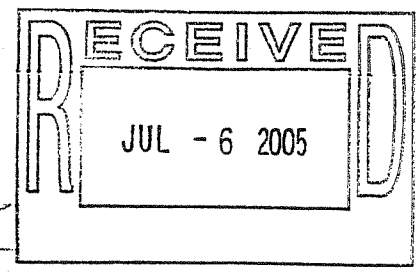
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Sincerely,



Signature Jennifer Lindley David Sample

Print Name Jennifer Lindley David Sample

Print Address Residence: 29 George St  
Fairport NY 14450

owners of: 1027-1029 Genesee  
Rochester NY 14611

*Jennifer is fighting for her life with cancer, so we cannot respond more fully. Jen grew up in this neighborhood of the 19th Ward and this project means the world to us!*

IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING  
REVITALIZATION PROJECT

JUL - 5 2005

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

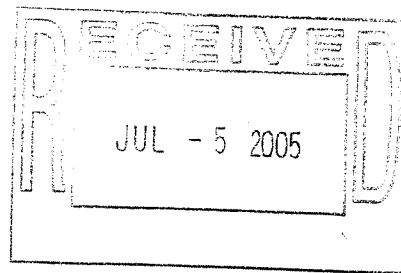
Print Address

DEAN HARTIS  
33 Elm St Ave  
Rochester, NY 14619

June 29, 2005

Mercelle B. Jackson  
406 Wellington Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14619

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall, Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester, NY 14614



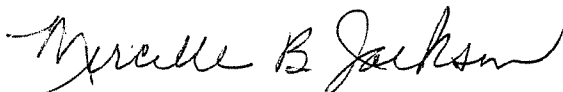
Dear Commissioner Ku,

I am writing to be sure that you know that I am delighted about the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project and fully support the use of a small parcel of parkland for the Project. I see the use of the parkland as an asset rather than a loss, as presently; there is no formal access to the river on the parcel or real recreational use of the land. ] 3

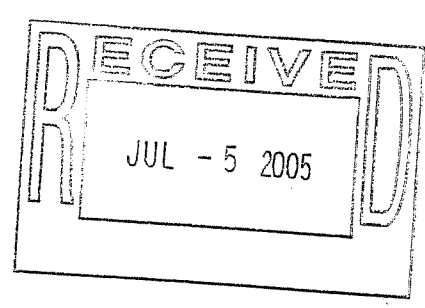
As a resident of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward since 1977 and for 5 years prior in the 1960s, it is exciting to watch the changes that have begun to take place, the improvements of streets and traffic flow, the improvement of some buildings and the removal of others that were an eyesore. It has taken a dedicated effort on the part of numerous community members over many years to get this far. My sincere hope is that the final approvals will be granted so that we can see the completion of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project. ] 7

Commissioner Ku, I urge you to lend your support and help secure the final approvals for this project, which will benefit not only the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward but the entire area.

Sincerely,

  
Mercelle B. Jackson

Susan Hagen  
57 Trafalgar Street  
Rochester, NY 14619  
585-235-3031  
*July 5, 2005*



Fashun Ku, Commissioner  
Economic Development Department  
City Hall, Room 005A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester, NY 14614-1290

Dear Fashun,

As a 14-year resident of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward and a former president of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Association I am delighted to voice my support for the proposed conversion of 1.38 acres of Genesee Valley Park for the Brooks Landing development. This much anticipated project provides the most significant economic improvement the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood has witness in the last half-century and, at the same time, enhances public enjoyment of our waterfront along the Genesee River.

6,3

The strategic location of this new development next to the footbridge also promises to strengthen the links between the neighborhood and the University of Rochester, one of the nation's most prestigious institutes of higher learning and Rochester's second largest employer.

23

I applaud the persistence of city officials who have shepherded this plan through the many levels of governmental approvals triggered by the need to convert this sliver of parkland to commercial use. As part of this final hurdle, I urge the National Park Service to approve the conversion of the parkland at the Brook Landing site and to accept the replacement parcel of 19.5 acres adjacent to Turning Point Park.

I appreciate the thorough review required by this project and am glad that many regulations exists to prevent parkland from being easily appropriated for development. In this case, however, the conversion will actually improve the park. As the map indicates, the 1.38 acres in question serve as nothing more than a shoulder to a busy byway. The new proposal will reduce traffic through the park and create a public promenade and boat launch that can be enjoyed by all residents.

63

I look forward to enjoying this promenade and the many new amenities planned on a regular basis. I currently walk my dog here throughout the year and bike along the river with my three daughters in the warmer months. Many thanks for all the work, time, financial resources and commitment that is making this transformation possible.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Hagen".  
Susan Hagen

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

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Sincerely,

Signature

*Paul F. Lindsey*

Print Name

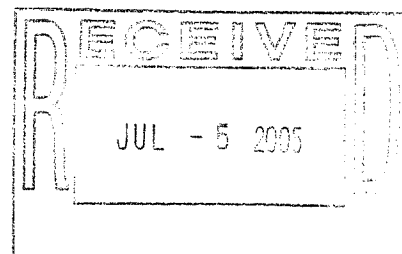
Paul F. Lindsey

Print Address

Joseph C. Wilson Magnet H.S.

501 Genesee St

Rochester NY 14611



## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

*We need your help to ensure that  
this project gets completed. Thanks.*

Signature

*T. O'Connor*

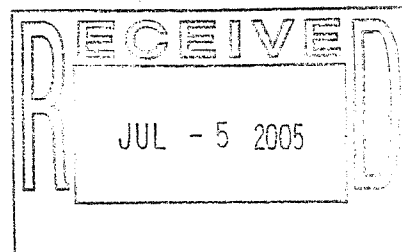
Print Name

*T. O'CONNOR*

Print Address

*52 ARVINE HTS*

*Rochester NY 14611*



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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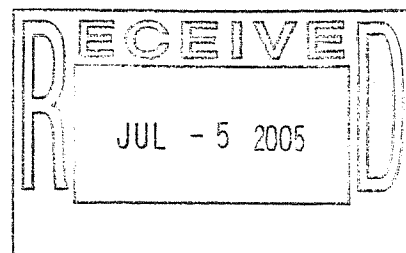
Sincerely,

Signature Gladys Royster/Cots

Print Name GLADYS ROYSTER

Print Address 82 MELODY STREET

ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14608



# IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature

Katie Rulseh

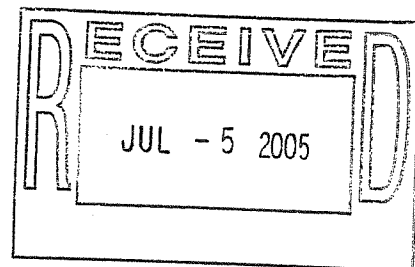
Print Name

Katie Rulseh

Print Address

33 Elmdorf Ave.

Rochester, NY 14619





56 Pioneer Street  
Rochester, NY 14619

June 30, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City of Rochester  
City Hall, Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku:

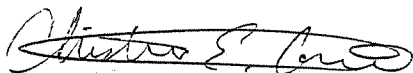
I am writing to you as an eight-year resident of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward and a member of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Association in full and avid support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

When I chose to return to Rochester from Madison, Wisconsin—a city designated by Money Magazine in the year I moved as the number one city in America in which to live, work, and raise a family—I wasn't certain I had made the right choice. After all, Rochester suffered then from serious self-esteem issues. However, within two years of my return, I made a commitment to Rochester by choosing to buy a home in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward. I could have easily purchased in one of the more "desirable" neighborhoods, such as Browncroft or Park-Monroe, but the sense of a community poised for growth and revitalization was so appealing that I chose the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward.

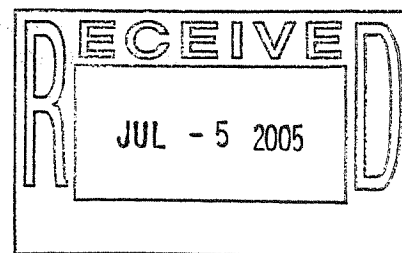
One of the most compelling factors in my decision was the promise that the Brooks Landing project was "about to break ground any day now." That was eight years ago, and more than two decades into the struggle that 19<sup>th</sup> Ward leaders such as Dana Miller and John Borek, members of the venerable 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Association, business owners, and neighbors have undertaken to bring this project to fruition. To see this stalled once again—even as street improvements at Brooks, Genesee, and South Plymouth are underway—over the non-issue of the loss of 1.4 acres of parkland is disheartening, to say the least.

Although the phrase "win-win" is clichéd these days, the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project is a pure example of a situation in which all parties involved stand to gain. Riverfront access on the west bank of the Genesee will be enhanced for the benefit of neighbors and visitors to the community; parkland will be improved by proximity to services (and thanks to the mandated land swap, our neighbors to the north will enjoy expansion and improvement of Turning Point Park); traffic will be better managed; and dollars and jobs will come to a sector of the city much in need of both. To hold all this up now over the concerns of a vocal few about the "loss" of the equivalent of city block's worth of underutilized park space would be folly, providing those who find only reason to criticize Rochester yet another sad example of this city's inability to bring visions for growth and enhancement to life.

Sincerely,



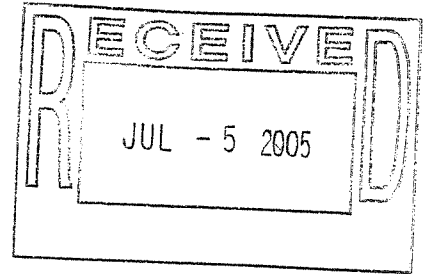
Christine E. Corrado



134

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005



Dear Commissioner Ku,

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Sincerely,

Signature

Carol Yacono

Print Name

CAROL YACONO

Print Address

72 Olympia Dr. 14615 (I live in Greece ... however...

- I attend St Monica's Church - 134 Monica St  
and Genesee 14619

- I work at Wilson Magnet HS - 501 Genesee St  
14611

\* My life is in the 19th Ward.  
this project would be an asset!

CY

orig. of  
email

19TH WARD  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION

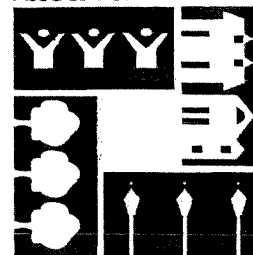
135

334 Thurston Road

Rochester, NY 14619

585 • 328 • 6571

the19thward@yahoo.com



July 5, 2005

Fashun Ku  
Commissioner of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

I am contacting you in support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project. As a lifelong resident of the Nineteenth Ward and a community advocate, I believe this development is essential to the restoration, economic growth, and future of Southwest Rochester. The plans for additional retail, recreational, and entertainment use of the area along with the increased access to riverfront parkland are exciting possibilities for our community!

The street improvements that are currently underway will, when completed, provide for a safe, easy flow of traffic for both vehicles and pedestrians. Residents will adapt and adjust to the changes in transportation. The benefits from those improvements will far outweigh the temporary minimal inconvenience.

The loss of parkland is a non-issue. The acreage designated for the project is largely pavement. Once the development is completed, it will attract and allow more opportunities to enjoy the existing greenspace and the river view. Provisions have been included within the project to replace converted "parkland" with vacant City-owned land.

Our community has supported the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project for 20-plus years under the leadership of Dan Miller. Despite many, many obstacles over the years, this community has continued to pursue the development of Brooks Landing. Without this support, the vision for the project would have died long ago. The fact that the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project has come this far is a testament to the overwhelming support, commitment, and endurance of the people of Southwest Rochester.

It is my sincere hope and prayer that these efforts will come to fruition in 2005-2006!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Tipple".

Karen Tipple, President

July 8, 2005

Fashun Ku  
Commissioner of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner:

We are writing to lend our full support of the planned Brooks Landing Project in the 19th Ward. We have lived in the "Ward" for the past seven years and are eagerly anticipating the benefits that this project will no doubt bring to our neighborhood. We believe our neighborhood has tremendous potential to become as vigorous as the Park Avenue or Corn Hill neighborhoods. The Brooks Landing Project will go a long way toward bringing much needed retail storefronts into our shopping districts. In doing so, the ripple effect should then continue on down Genesee Street. Once merchants start to reap the benefits of this revitalization, we will experience continued growth in all of our commercially zoned areas.

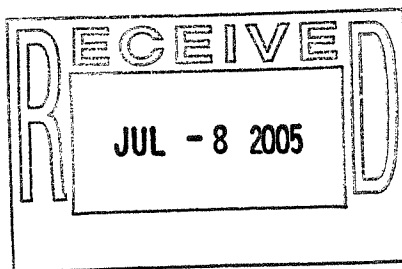
In addition to the obvious benefits of added shopping opportunities, we will be left with a well designed intersection that will serve as the gateway to our community. We would respond to the handful of dissenters over this issue by pointing out that the perceived loss of parkland from this project will result in a greater benefit for the vast majority of residents in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward, along with Sector 4 residents, by developing a safe and pleasant environment in which to relax by the Genesee River. People will be drawn to this area once the project starts moving along, and it will be of more benefit than ever before. As it is now, that part of the park is merely a place for weeds to grow and litter to accumulate.

Please continue with this project without delay. We need and deserve this revitalization project!

Very truly yours,

Cindy E. Jones  
Patricia E. Hagerman  
202 Aberdeen Street  
Rochester, New York 14619

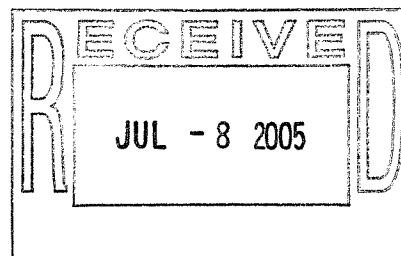
(Email)



Victoria Simmons  
164 Millbank Street  
Rochester, New York 14619

July 7, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City of Rochester  
30 Church Street  
Rochester, New York 14614



Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my **complete support** of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As an *Urban By Choice* stake holder in the fate of the community, I have been looking forward to the realization of the Brooks Avenue area. To be more specific, I purchased my house on Millbank Street 18 years ago because of its proximity to the proposed project. Little did I know that it would take 20 plus years to come to yet another crossroad. A crossroad I might add created by someone who is not vested in the community and its overall well being as the multitudes that support this project.

For 20 plus years we have met, planned and moved this project forward. Some far more active than others, but always moving the project onward and providing updates to the greater community. There have been no secrets as to the plans and the proposed outcomes. Now that we are nearing the first shovel of dirt being dug, we have opposition. I am outraged that this would happen at this late date. Please help me to understand how one person can undermine all the work done by countless volunteers over the years? It is often difficult in urban areas to get people to come together to develop and agree on a plan and then to carry it forward. We have been successful in doing that until now. Please do not insult or discredit the extensive work of this strong and diverse Urban By Choice Community. We have spoken loudly and clearly about the project and the needs of the community.

Please add my name to the list of supporters of the project, and please, as Nike says, '*just do it*'. Just get this project underway so that our community can begin to thrive in the ways that we are anticipating, and not continuing to struggle.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Simmons

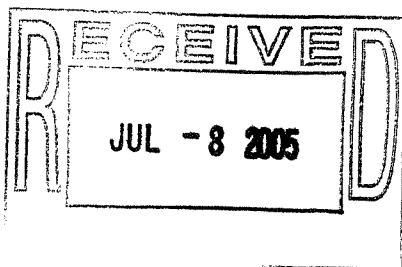
Greetings,

This message is a show of support for the ongoing work being undertaken for the Brooks Landing project.

I am a homeowner in the 19th Ward, and am very pleased with what has been accomplished already. Simply the removal of some of the many ramshackle buildings along Genesee is a wonderful thing to have witnessed.

I am happy at the progress that has been made thus far, and I hope that construction continues with the aim of further development of this site. With luck, perhaps such an investment may prove a catalyst towards future cleansing/re-purposing of the many other dirty, abandoned storefronts along Genesee.

thank you for your time,  
Benjamin Van Durme (email)  
Graduate Student  
Computer Science Department  
University of Rochester.



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Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

I have lived on Genesee Park Boulevard near the intersection of Genesee Street for 25 years, walking to work each day at the University where I am a faculty member, and enjoying life in a city neighborhood. When I first moved to this neighborhood Brooks Avenue was an important anchor to the neighborhood with Carr's Drugstore, a dentist's office above it, Rochester Plumbing, and other stores at the Genesee Street end of Brooks, and Louie's Sweet Shop and Merrills at the Thurston end. Neighbors on my block included an ex-mayor of Rochester, a federal judge, and three university professors. Sadly all of these businesses closed, many of my neighbors moved away, and the neighborhood became rather estranged from the University community. Many of my faculty colleagues actually became frightened to venture across the Elmwood Bridge after dark - even in their automobiles. Of course the fear was irrational, but it was nonetheless real.

There has been considerable investment already in attempt to turn around this situation around. The pedestrian bridge was built and hiking trails were built along both sides of the river, but few ventured across the river, partly because of the fear, but also because there was no longer any reason to go across. The west end of the pedestrian bridge led to a badly decayed commercial neighborhood. The Brooks Landing Revitalization Project has long been our dream of a way to revitalize the area and renew the natural close relation between the University and the 19th Ward and Southwest area. It promises give people a reason to cross the river and enjoy it. The University brings people in from the suburbs, and this will help acquaint them to City life outside of campus. I think that the potential for improving the opinion of suburban commuters of city life is very real and very important for both the neighborhood and the University. Faculty and students will cross the bridge if there is a nice off-campus restaurant and coffee shop, and perhaps bookstore. We have many short term guests at the University who need convenient accommodations. Having a hotel in walking distance would be enormously helpful if it were located in a safe attractive complex with restaurant and other facilities.

Getting faculty and students into the neighborhood will encourage students and even some faculty members to move back which will further encourage investment. Some worry about gentrification, but diversity has long been a feature of the neighborhood, but it has been threatened by the exodus of the middle class in the past decade. This project has real promise for restoring the diversity which most of us so treasure in this section of the City.

A concern has been expressed that the project will encroach on park lands. It seems to me that this project will greatly enhance the park by making a very attractive node that joins the park, the hiking trail, the University, and the river. It will remove a busy thoroughfare which greatly detracts from the current park. It will also bring the range of facilities along the river up to what should be critical mass so that everyone begins to think of the whole riverbank from the canal to downtown as an attractive place to be. We should see more canoeing, fishing, and other uses of the river. I think it is an enormous advance in the park system.

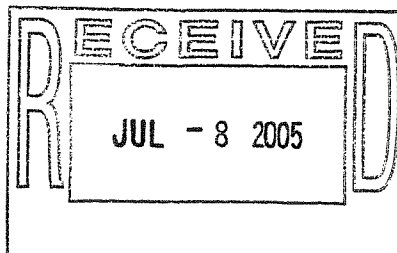
There will certainly be increased traffic on Genesee Street and Genesee Park Boulevard. I cannot say that I look forward to that, but the intersection and street improvements should make that intrusion bearable - certainly more than compensated for by the other improvements. I would hope that improvements on Mount Hope follow so that the Ford Street bridge - Mount Hope route takes up some of the Plymouth avenue traffic.

It is a great project that promises to be of great benefit to the whole metropolitan area. I strongly support it and hope that it will be carried forward without further delay.

Sincerely,  
Carlos Stroud (email)

35 Genesee Park Boulevard  
Rochester, NY 14611  
436-7526

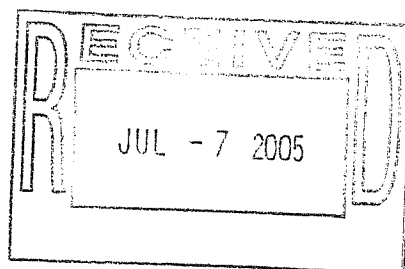
cstroud1@rochester.rr.com



To Whom:

I would like to register my support of the Brooks Landing Project. I live and work in the 19th Ward only a few blocks from the intersection of Brooks and Genesee Street. I have lived in Rochester for 6 years, and Brooks Landing was one of the first things I heard about. I am very pleased to see the work that has already begun.

Ken Bordner (Rev.), rector (by email)  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
350 Chili Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14619





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## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

July 6, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note our complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

We lived in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward from 1978 through 1985 and then returned to the Ward in 2003, knowing that we were returning to a growing and vital community of concerned neighbors and friends. As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I look forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of. 6

Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on our daily travels. All construction creates some temporary dislocation but the ultimate goal is well worth an inconvenience. Once everyone is accustomed to the new traffic patterns, we doubt they will give it a second thought - we know we won't. 1,3

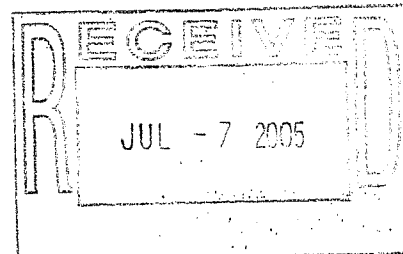
We are very excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area. We understand that concerns have been raised about a supposed loss of park land, but that is truly a non-issue. The 1.4 acres designated as the northernmost point of Genesee Valley Park is currently split up by the four-lane high-traffic portion of S. Plymouth Ave. and there is currently no meaningful access to the river or other area available for recreational use. The Brooks Landing plan reduces the roadway to two low-traffic lanes and provides a large green space with river and recreational access. If anything, the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will make the area more conducive to recreation and use of the available parkland and will provide increased access to the riverfront park land. We think the improvements will definitely result in a net improvement to recreational use of park land.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of our neighbors and representatives. It is our sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. We add our support to the support of the majority of our neighbors in favor of the Project. 7,4

Sincerely,

*Harold Carter*      *Elise W. Carter*

Harold M. Carter, Jr. and Elise W. Carter  
431 Wellington Avenue  
Hcarter1@rochester.rr.com



July 5, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods, the 19th Ward. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of and that it will help draw the University of Rochester community into the neighborhood.

Drawing more students and faculty of the University of Rochester across the river with an attractive retail establishment, I believe is key to reestablishing the vibrancy of lower Genesee Street business corridor. As someone who attended Washington University in St. Louis and who visited St. Louis twice a year since my childhood, I can attest to the significant impact a university can have on the redevelopment of communities as demonstrated by the Delmar Loop near the undergraduate campus and the Central West End near the medical school. Despite being about a mile away from the undergraduate campus, the Delmar loop is a vibrant multicultural commercial strip with interesting restaurants, bars and sores. As a faculty member living in the 19th ward, I hope to be able to point out to the University's new President, who comes from Washington University, that the initial reinvestment in Brooks Landing could serve as an opportunity for Rochester build our own "Delmar Loop" and make the University that much more attractive to potential students and faculty.

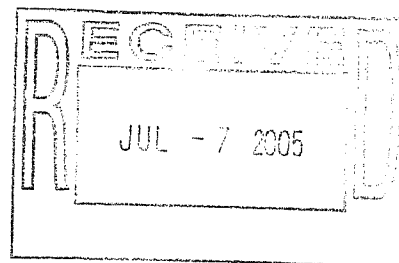
While some have complained, the street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on my daily travels. In fact, I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront parkland that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice of support.

Sincerely,  
Jacob and Heather Adams  
by email  
184 Gillette Street  
Rochester, NY 14619

M. Jacob Adams, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Community and Preventive Medicine  
Division of Epidemiology  
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry  
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 644  
Rochester, NY 14642

TEL (585) 275-5951  
FAX (585) 461-4532



In Support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project

July 5, 2005

Commissioner Fashun Ku  
Department of Economic Development  
City Hall Room 005-A  
30 Church Street  
Rochester NY 14614

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note our complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As long time (30+ years) home owners and residents in the 19th ward and stakeholders in the fate of the community, we have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. We believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester needs and will want to be a part of

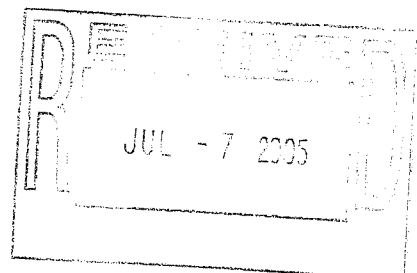
Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on our daily travels. We work at U of R and the AI Sigi Center. We look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. In addition, we're very excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of our neighbors and representatives. It is our sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. We now wish to formally add our voice.

Sincerely,  
Wendy & Peter Sullivan

Name: Wendy & Peter Sullivan  
Address: 745 Woodbine Rochester, NY 14619

e-mail sullybro@rochester.rr.com

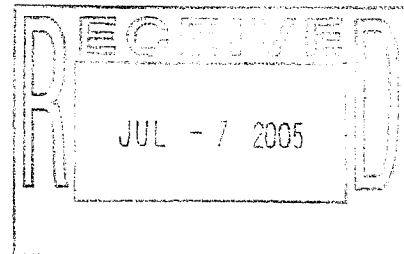


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Dear Commissioner Ku,

I am writing to express my support for the Brooks Landing Project. My husband and I have lived in the 19th Ward for 35 years, and saw the beginnings of the project when it was proposed 20 years ago. The 19th Ward neighbors have been waiting a long time for this project to come to fruition! The project has been talked about for all the 20 years of it's planning, and support from the neighborhood has been overwhelming throughout that period of time. It will bring new life to a rather sad and neglected corner of our neighborhood. We look forward to its completion.

Deborah T. Leary (by email)  
443 Wellington Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14619



## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on my daily travels. In fact, I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. In addition, I'm excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area.

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Sincerely,

Signature

*Dan M. M. M.*

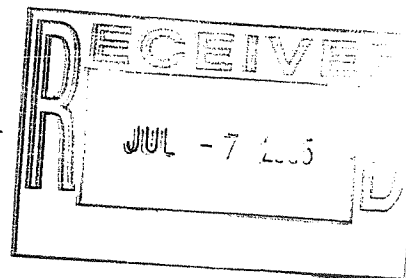
Print Name

*Daniel M. M.*

Print Address

*923 Geneva St*

*Rochester NY 14611*



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## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

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Sincerely,

Signature

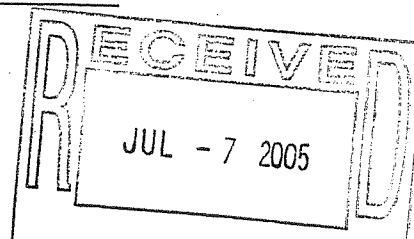
*Dorothy Graham*

Print Name

DOROTHY GRAHAM

Print Address

204 ELM DORF Ave -



147

**KRYSIA MNICK**  
ARTIST  
P.O. Box 10276  
ROCHESTER NY 14610

July 05, 2005

Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

Next week marks the twentieth anniversary of my arrival in Rochester. First impressions of my new home filled me with optimism. There was so much beauty and community spirit in Rochester. There was promise of a future that I could not feel in my beleaguered home town of Syracuse.

I explored my new environs with frequent drives into different areas, to familiarize myself with neighborhoods outside of the Park Ave area where I first landed. I recall being enchanted with Genesee Valley Park, and have been a devotee of the excellent facilities over the years. During that time, my alternative exploratory routes home only rarely included Genesee Street, Thurston Road or Jefferson Avenue. I was disappointed by the apparent abandonment of a beautiful area adjacent to the park, the University and the airport with an obvious past of a lively community, now fallen into disrepair and neglect, populated by individuals who seemed to have little regard for their surroundings and their neighbors.

My work as a designer of public art kept leading me back to question why the West Side seemed to be so far off the radar of targeted community development in Rochester. Why not celebrate the West Side of the river as strongly as the East?

As I completed a mural sponsored by SEAD and CUE with teens from the County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court, I became increasingly aware of the West Side and its potential through the eyes of my students, and started to explore the area again. I was invited to take a part-time job with Sector 4 Community Development to help promote cultural and historical awareness of the area. What I have since learned about the history, community and spirit of this vast area of Rochester has committed me to promoting the flavor of our area to the rest of the city, region, and indeed, world.

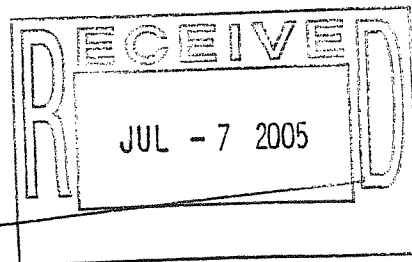
In 2000, I did not drive down Genesee Street unless I absolutely had to.

In 2005, I drive down Genesee Street at least weekly to celebrate all that's new. I visit shops on Thurston that have items I can't find anywhere else in town. I patronize the restaurants in this area that have committed to excellence in the face of some incredible challenges. And I've waited, and waited for the promise of Brooks Landing (first mentioned 20+ years ago?) to break ground and become a reality.

The Brooks Landing Project is the Gateway that will open the portals to Sector 4, an area that historically and socially must come to its time as a full player in the cultural and social vitality of Rochester. It is my sincere wish that the project and all the future it holds have every chance to see fruition.

*Krysia Mnick*

Krysia Mnick



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Mr. John F. Lightfoot  
52 Dr. Samuel McCree Way  
Rochester, NY 14608

Commissioner KU  
City Hall  
Rochester, NY 14608

**RE: This is a letter stating my support for the Brooks Landing Project.**

Dear Commissioner KU,

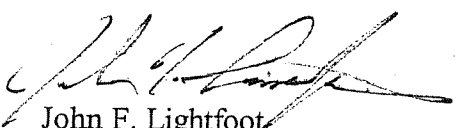
My name is John F. Lightfoot and I currently serve as a board member of the Sector 4 Community Development Corporation. This CDC was originated from Mr. Umar Mustafa years ago. I was a board member then also. The CDC was developed in efforts were to as community folk like myself, can plan and design for their neighborhoods. HUD federally supported this tactic because they believe that the people who live in their community, knows what is needed in the community.

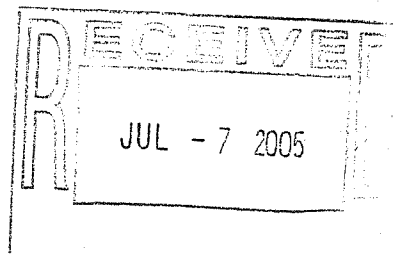
For the last fifteen years I have been very active in my community from a grassroots level. I have knocked on plenty of doors and attended many town and community meetings. I am very aware of all the issues and the concerns within my community. I have just completed my two-year term as Sector 4 president and I assure you, that this was never an issue. There have not been any residents who have attended the, open and publicized, Sector 4 meetings to voice their opinion about the opposition of this project.

It concerns me today, just like it did when the CDC first was birthed, that government officials and employees continue to give us red tape and hoops to jump through. Making volunteers continue to spin their wheels and extinguish their efforts to develop a neighborhood that is user friendly, while taking away time from being spent with their families and love ones, only to chase carrots that seem to never fill.

The curvature was a concern of mine at one time. And as I look at it now, it is a beautiful design. The park, west of South Plymouth Avenue, south of Brooks Avenue was never utilized and still is not to this day.

I am sending you this letter for my support of the Brooks Landing Project.

  
John F. Lightfoot  
Sector 4 CDC Board

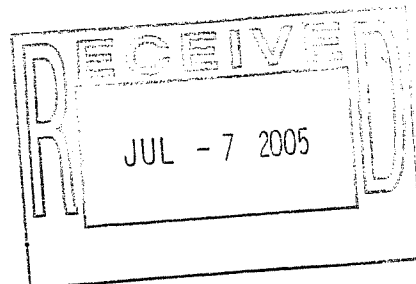




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## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005



Dear Commissioner Ku,

Please note my complete support of the Brooks Landing Revitalization Project.

As a stakeholder in the fate of the community, I have long looked forward to the realization of the Project - the key element in the restoration of the vitality, economic health and overall desirability of one of Rochester's oldest neighborhoods. I believe the Project will provide a welcome to the West Side that all of Rochester will want to be a part of.

Among many changes, street improvements to resolve traffic flow issues that are underway have not had a major impact on my daily travels. In fact, I look forward to enjoying increased personal access to the riverfront park land that the reconfiguration of Plymouth Avenue will provide. In addition, I'm excited about the plans for increased retail, recreational and entertainment use of the area.

The origins and support for the project are community driven and very well documented. Every step in the process over the last twenty-plus years has been taken with the energy and input of my neighbors and representatives. It is my sincere hope that all this effort will finally bear fruit. The overwhelming support for the project exists as testament to the need for success of this project. I now wish to formally add my voice.

Sincerely,

Signature

Print Name

Janice Damick

Print Address

20 Grandview Terrace

Rochester, NY 14611

Rich Damick

20 Grandview Ter

Rochester, NY 14611

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BROOKS LANDING REVITALIZATION PROJECT

June 23, 2005

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Sincerely,

Signature Paul D. Van Ness  
Print Name PAUL D. VAN NESS  
Print Address 425 RUGBY AVE.  
ROCHESTER, NY 14619

